

CCXAP affirms Changxing Communications Investment Group Co., Ltd.'s long-term credit rating at BBBg-, with stable outlook

Hong Kong, 28 July 2021 – China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited ("CCXAP") has affirmed the long-term credit rating of Changxing Communications Investment Group Co., Ltd. ("CCIG" or the "Company") at BBB_g-, The rating outlook is stable.

Corporate Profile

Established in 1994, CCIG is the key investment and financing platform for transportation infrastructure construction in Changxing County, Huzhou City. The Company is one of the key infrastructure investment and financing companies that carry out urban development activities such as infrastructure construction and primary land development. In addition, the Company also engages in commercial trading and other business operations, such as security services, transportation services, toll roads and tourism.

As of 31 December 2020, the Transportation Bureau of Changxing County held 90% of the equity shares of CCIG, while Zhejiang Financial Development Co., Ltd held the remaining 10%. The Changxing County Government is the ultimate shareholder of the Company.

Rating Rationale

The BBB_g- long-term credit rating of CCIG is underpinned by the Company's (1) key role in transportation infrastructure construction of Changxing County; and (2) growing business diversification with supplementary income resources.

However, the rating is also constrained by the Company's (1) high capital expenditure pressure; (2) high debt leverage; and (3) moderate liquidity profile with exposure to contingent liability risks.

We believe CCIG has a high likelihood of receiving strong support from Changxing County Government in times of need. Our expectation is based on the Company's (1) key role in the transportation development of Changxing County; (2) close relationship with the local government; and (3) good track record of receiving ongoing support.

Rating Outlook

The stable outlook on CCIG's rating reflects our expectation that it will continue to receive strong support from the local government and maintain its important role in transportation infrastructure construction of Changxing County.

What could upgrade the rating?

The rating could be upgraded if (1) the economic and fiscal strength of Changxing County improves notably; and (2) the Company's stand-alone credit profile improves significantly, such as improved debt leverage and liquidity profile.



What could downgrade the rating?

The rating could be downgraded if (1) the economic and fiscal performance of Changxing County deteriorates; (2) the likelihood of government support for the Company decreases; or (3) the Company's stand-alone credit profile weakens significantly, such as heightened debt leverage and weakened funding access.

Rating Methodology

The methodology used in this rating is the Rating Methodology for <u>China's Local Infrastructure</u> <u>Investment and Financing Companies (May 2020)</u>.

Regulatory Disclosures

CCXAP's Rating Symbols and Definitions are available on its website at: http://www.ccxap.com/en/rating_services/category/6/

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